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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 11 MAY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, between 1 and 7 May 1999, United States and British aircraft, taking off from their bases in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, continued to violate Iraqi airspace, carrying out acts of aggression, observation and provocation, as specified in the list annexed hereto.

I should be grateful if you would intervene with the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the States which are providing them with facilities in order to commit these acts of aggression, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, so that these acts, which endanger the sovereignty and unity of the territory of the Republic of Iraq and constitute blatant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law, will be halted.

These acts continue to cause deaths and injuries among the civilian population and material damage to public and private property. The logistical support provided by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to the Americans and the British makes them essential accomplices in the aggression against Iraq, and they therefore bear international responsibility for these acts. The Republic of Iraq reaffirms its right to demand reparation for the harm inflicted on the Iraqi people through the aforementioned acts.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Details of violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 1-7 May 1999

1. In the northern region 61 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 5,000 to 11,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho and Baibo.

2. In the southern region 227 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 7,000 to 11,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Artawi, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Qurnah, Basra, Sammara', Hayy, Kut, Umm Qasr, Diwaniyah, Afak, Hawr al-Hammar, Qala't Sukkar, Najaf, Rifa'i, Shatrah, and Ushbayjah.

3. At 0930, 0945, 1000 and 1035 hours on 1 May 1999, United States and British aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the Umm Qasr area.

4. At 0850 hours on 1 May 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s and F-16s and were supported by one AWACS and one E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. They carried out 53 sorties, 42 from Saudi airspace and 11 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Amarah, Hawr al-Hammar, Nasiriyah, Salman, Qurnah, Ushbayjah, Qala't Sukkar, Rifa'i and Shatrah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1640 hours, drove them off.

5. At 1037 hours on 2 May 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 19 sorties, and overflew the Irbil, Dohuk, Baibo, Tall Afar, Amadiyah and Mosul areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1220 hours, drove them off.

6. At 0930 hours on 2 May 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, Tornadoes and EA-6Bs and were supported by one AWACS and one E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. They carried out 39 sorties, 27 from Saudi airspace and 12 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Diwaniyah, Hawr al-Hammar, Nasiriyah, Samawah and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1107 hours, drove them off.

7. At 1033 hours on 3 May 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. The aircraft carried out 23 sorties, and overflew the Irbil, Dohuk, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Zakho and Mosul areas. The aircraft fired five missiles on a services-related installation in the Ba'shiqah area, causing the deaths of a number of citizens and wounding others, in addition to

destroying an extensive amount of property. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1220 hours, drove them off.

8. At 1550 hours on 3 May 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16 and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 28 sorties, 16 from Saudi airspace and 12 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Amarah, Hawr al-Hammar, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Jalibah, Qala't Sukkar, Artawi and Rifa'i areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1725 hours, drove them off.

9. At 0930 hours on 4 May 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, Tornadoes and EA-6Bs and were supported by one AWACS and one E-2C command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. They carried out 54 sorties, 30 from Saudi airspace and 24 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Amarah, Diwaniyah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Qala't Sukkar, Artawi, Chabaish, Ushbayjah, Afak, Hayy and Basra areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1725 hours, drove them off.

10. At 0951, 1610, 1615, 1620, 1622, 1635 and 1643 hours on 4 May 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the Umm Qasr area.

11. At 0820 hours on 5 May 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s and EA-6Bs and were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. They carried out 28 sorties, 20 from Saudi airspace and 8 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Shatrah, Jalibah and Rifa'i areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1010 hours, drove them off.

12. At 1300 hours on 7 May 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. The aircraft carried out 19 sorties, and overflew the Dohuk, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Zakho and Mosul areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1440 hours, drove them off.

13. At 0915 hours on 7 May 1999 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s, F-16s, F-18s and Tornadoes and were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft. They carried out 25 sorties, 16 from Saudi airspace and 9 from Kuwaiti airspace. The aircraft overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Basra, Jalibah, and Rifa'i areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1110 hours, drove them off.